

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 06273 071106Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 AGRE-00 /075 W

-----126180 071120Z /20

P R 071020Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4333

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

WHITE HOUSE

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GENEVA FOR MR. CAVANAUGH; PARIS FOR DEA; WHITE HOUSE FOR DR.
BOURNE AND MR. O'KEEFE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, UN, AF

SUBJ: DEMETRE COMPLETES INITIAL EVALUATION OF UPPER HELMAND
POPPY ERADICATION PROJECT

1. SUMMARY: MICHAEL DEMETRE, UNFDAC, DEPARTED KABUL ON SEPT 6,
AFTER COMPLETING AN INITIAL SERIES OF CONFERENCES AND ON-SITE
INSPECTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE UPPER HELMAND POPPY ERADICA-
TION PROJECT PROPOSED BY THE JOINT COMMISSION ON AFGHAN
NARCOTICS MATTERS (JC) AT ITS INITIAL MEETING ON JULY 27.
HE REGARDED THE RESULTS OF HIS SOUNDINGS AS PROMISING. END SUMMARY

2. DEMETRE SPENT THREE WEEKS IN AFGHANISTAN CONFERRING WITH A
LARGE NUMBER OF AFGHAN, UN, EMBASSY AND AID OFFICIALS. HE
VISITED THE SANGIN, QAL'A MUSA AND KAJAKI DISTRICTS
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PAGE 02 KABUL 06273 071106Z

OF THE UPPER HELMAND, THE TARGET AREAS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT.
THE GOVERNOR OF HELMAND PROVINCE AND HIS STAFF GREETED THE UN
PARTY WARMLY AND FACILITATED THEIR INSPECTION TOUR. SOME LOCAL
POPPY-GROWING FARMERS WERE INTERVIEWED AND INDICATED THAT THEY
WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO CHANGE.

3. DEMETRE FOUND THAT THERE ARE EXISTING STUDIES WHICH CAN

BE UTILIZED IN HIS WORK. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB) HAS PREPARED MOST OF THE NECESSARY PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON IRRIGATION AND OTHER PROJECTS IN THE UPPER HELMAND VALLEY. UNDP/UNFDAC MAY DECIDE TO COORDINATE DIRECTLY WITH THE ADB AND DEVELOP CROP-SUBSTITUTION DEMONSTRATION FARMS IN THE POPPY GROWING AREAS. DEMETRE WILL ALSO BE WEIGHING AGRO-BUSINESS AND SPECIALIZED MARKETING CHANNELS, TOGETHER WITH CROP INSURANCE TECHNIQUES.

4. DEMETRE PLANS TO RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN IN NOVEMBER WITH PRELIMINARY PROJECT IDEAS TO PRESENT TO THE JOINT COMMISSION. AS HE WORKS ON HIS PROJECT PROPOSALS IN GENEVA, DEMETRE WILL BE SUPPORTED BY ONGOING FIELD WORK BY AFGHAN SPECIALISTS OF THE HELMAND-ARGHANDAB VALLEY AUTHORITY (HAVA) AND UNDP.

5. COMMENT: DEMETRE APPEARED TO BE SATISFIED WITH HIS INITIAL LOOK AT THE SITUATION AND CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO EVOLVE A WORKABLE POPPY ERADICATION PROGRAM WHICH WOULD GAIN JOINT COMMISSION APPROVAL AND INTEREST POTENTIAL FOREIGN DONORS.
AMSTUTZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation History:
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